

~~SECRET~~
Summary Report
BRIEFING NOTE

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE OBJECTIVES

NSC Intelligence Directive No. 4, adopted by the Council in 1947, requires the Director of Central Intelligence to maintain a currently valid listing of priority national intelligence objectives (that is, subjects of priority interest in relation to national security), as a basis for the coordination of intelligence collection, research, and production. This NSC directive has been implemented by DCI directives adopted from time to time in accordance with NSCID-1.

~~SECRET~~

During the past year the DCID on this subject has been thoroughly reviewed and revised to take into account the full range of national security interests set forth in NSC 162/2.

In the current DCID highest priority is accorded to:

- a. Soviet and Chinese Communist over-all politico-military strategy, particularly intentions to initiate hostilities using Soviet or Chinese Communist armed forces.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

b. Soviet development, production, and
employment of weapons and other components
of weapons systems requisite for a nuclear attack
on the United States, or for defense of the Soviet
Bloc against air attack.

Presumably these subjects (the likelihood of
war, and the Soviet capability to deliver a
"knockout blow" against the United States, and
to defend itself against such a blow) must remain
matters of highest intelligence priority in any
circumstances. The new DCID, however, makes

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

broader provision than hitherto for priority
consideration of other subjects indicated by
NSC 162/2.

Provision has also been made for the systematic
review of priority national intelligence objectives
on a semi-annual basis.

The Intelligence Community is now engaged in
a review of its existing procedures for the
development and coordination of research
requirements and collection tasks in conformity
with established priority objectives. When this

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

process is completed the effectiveness and
coordination of intelligence collection, research,
and production will have been materially advanced.

~~SECRET~~